

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

The following list of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application:

List of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An immunogenic composition, comprising:
a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient; and
an attenuated form of live bacteria with a DNA adenine methylase (Dam) activity altered relative to the Dam activity of the wild-type, unaltered, pathogenic form of the live bacteria, with the alteration being in a manner which renders the live bacteria attenuated, wherein the Dam activity is altered by a mutation in the Dam gene; and
a first heterologous nucleotide sequence operatively inserted in the live attenuated bacteria which first heterologous sequence expresses a heterologous antigen.

Claim 2 (Original): The immunogenic composition of claim 1, wherein the Dam activity is altered by a second heterologous nucleotide sequence.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The immunogenic composition of claim 1, further comprising An immunogenic composition, comprising:
a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient; and
an attenuated form of live bacteria with a DNA adenine methylase (Dam) activity altered relative to the Dam activity of the wild-type, unaltered, pathogenic form of the live bacteria, with the alteration being in a manner which renders the live bacteria attenuated;
a first heterologous nucleotide sequence operatively inserted in the live attenuated bacteria which first heterologous sequence expresses a heterologous antigen; and
a second heterologous nucleotide sequence wherein the Dam activity is altered by the second heterologous nucleotide sequence.

Claim 4 (Previously Amended): The immunogenic composition of claim 3, wherein the first heterologous sequence is operatively inserted into a first plasmid and further wherein the second heterologous sequence is operatively inserted into a second plasmid.

Claims 5-6 (Canceled)

Claim 7 (Previously Amended): The immunogenic composition of claim 1, wherein the live attenuated bacteria is altered relative to its wild-type form by a genetically engineered change in its DNA which change is a non-lethal, non-reverting mutation which renders the bacteria attenuated.

Claim 8 (Original): The immunogenic composition of claim 1, wherein the heterologous antigen is an antigen of a pathogenic virus.

Claim 9 (Original): The immunogenic composition of claim 1, wherein the heterologous antigen is an antigen of a pathogenic bacteria.

Claims 10-11 (Canceled)

Claim 12 (Original): The immunogenic composition of claim 1, wherein the heterologous antigen is an antigen of a microorganism which causes an enteric infection.

Claim 13 (Previously Amended): The immunogenic composition of claim 12, wherein the microorganism is *Vibrio cholera*.

Claim 14 (Canceled)

Claim 15 (Original): The immunogenic composition of claim 1, wherein the heterologous antigen is an antigen of a microorganism which causes a respiratory infection.

Claims 16-17 (Canceled)

Claim 18 (Previously Amended): The immunogenic composition of claim 1, wherein the heterologous antigen is an antigen of a microorganism which causes a sexually transmitted disease.

Claim 19 (Canceled)

Claim 20 (Previously Amended): The immunogenic composition of claim 18, wherein the microorganism is HIV.

Claim 21 (Canceled)

Claim 22 (Previously Amended): The immunogenic composition of claim 1, wherein the heterologous antigen is hepatitis B surface antigen.

Claims 23-29 (Canceled)

Claims 30-31 (Withdrawn)